

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 7, 8 and 11 are amended.

Applicant appreciates the courtesies shown to Applicant's representative by Examiner Park and Examiner Coles in the October 4 personal interview. Applicant's separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks

Examiner Park and Examiner Coles are thanked for agreeing that the Amendment overcomes the objection to the figures, the objection to claims 9 and 10, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, included in the Office Action. Examiner Park and Examiner Coles are thanked for memorializing this agreement in the Interview Summary Form. Based on this agreement, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the figures, the objection to claims 9 and 10, and the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112 contained in the Office Action, be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11 and 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,348,971 to Owa et. al. (hereinafter "Owa") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,930,465 to Bellucco et al. (hereinafter "Bellucco"); and rejects claims 3, 4, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Owa in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,115,739 to Ogawa et al. (hereinafter "Ogawa"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8 and 11 are amended exactly as agreed at the October 4 interview. Examiner Park and Examiner Coles are thanked for agreeing at the interview that these amendments overcome the prior art rejections based on Owa, Bellucco and Ogawa. Examiner Park and Examiner Coles are also thanked for memorializing this agreement in the Interview Summary form.

Examiner Park and Examiner Coles requested that the Applicant specify portions of the specification and drawings that provide support for the subject matter added by this Amendment. In response, Applicant points to the sole full paragraph on page 4 of the

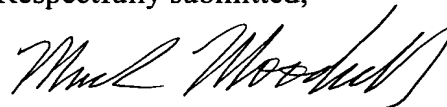
specification and the sole full paragraph on page 5 of the specification. In addition to this supporting disclosure from the specification, Applicant also points to Figures 1, 5 and 7, and the related written description in the specification on page 7, lines 2-13; page, 11, line 12 - page 13, line 2; and page 14, line 10 - page 17, line 2.

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully requested that the rejections of the claims based on Owa, Bellucco and Ogawa be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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